



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held February 13, 2007, the Board took the following action:

18

The following item was called up for consideration:

The Chief Administrative Officer's recommendation to approve appropriation adjustments necessary to realign and adjust the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Final Adopted Budget based on changing financial needs of various County budget units, and approve the following related actions:

Approve interim ordinance authority for the Probation Department for six Deputy Probation Officers II, Field; 15 Senior Detention Services Officers; 18 Detention Services Officers; 38 Group Supervisor, Nights Probation; one Supervising Transportation Deputy, Probation; five Transportation Deputy, Probation; two Supervising Deputy Probation Officers; five Deputy Probation Officer II, Residential Treatment/ Detention Services; eight Light Vehicle Drivers; and three Intermediate Typist-Clerks;

Authorize the Auditor-Controller to establish and maintain an interest-bearing special revenue fund and an interest-bearing trust account to properly account for expenditures related to maintenance activities and trailhead development for the Mission Canyon Landfill;

Authorize the Chief Administrative Officer to execute funding agreements with the Executive Director of the Community Development Commission, in order to transfer funding from the project and Facility Development Budget for planning and development activities supporting various improvement projects; and

Find that proposed Capital Project actions do not meet the definition of a project under the California Environmental Quality Act.

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Patricia Ploehn, Director of Children and Family Services; Robert Taylor, Chief Probation Officer, Robert Smythe, Administrative Deputy, and Dave Davies, Chief Deputy, Probation Department; and Marvin J. Southard, Director of Mental Health, responded to questions posed by the Board.

After discussion, Supervisor Molina made the following statement:

“The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) is requesting that the Board approve an appropriation adjustment shifting \$13 million in savings from its Administration Budget to offset a projected \$13 million deficit in the Assistance budget. The deficit is the result of: 1) higher than anticipated cost per case for Aid to Families with Dependent Children-Foster Care; 2) higher than anticipated caseload for Emergency Assistance-Foster Care; and 3) costs associated with initial Adoption and Safe Families Act (ASFA) home inspections and annual reassessments. ASFA regulations require that all foster relatives and nonrelated extended family members’ homes meet the same approval and licensing standards as foster family homes.

“The Department of Children and Family Services is currently backlogged on the annual reassessments of these homes and is unable to claim Federal and State reimbursement for foster care assistance payments. Over the past year, the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) has authorized DCFS to fill 35 staff positions to address existing backlog, however, the CAO has yet to clear it.”

Therefore, Supervisor Molina made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Knabe, that the Board continue for 30 days the Chief Administrative Officer’s recommendation No. 1, Section No. 5 (Children and Family Services), to transfer the \$13 million from the Director of Children and Family Services’ Administration Budget to the Assistance Budget, until the Director provides a comprehensive plan to conduct initial and annual Adoption and Safe Families Act home inspections in a timely manner.

Supervisor Antonovich made the following statement:

“In September 2006, during Supplemental Changes, as part of Probation Department’s camp redesign, 80 line positions were included in the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Final Adopted Budget to provide a ratio of 1:8 staff-to-minor for four camps and for the off-street intake unit at Challenger. While Probation’s remaining unmet needs request is still under review by the Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), a portion of the staffing requests (102 positions) have been analyzed by the CAO which would provide for a 1:10 staff-to-minor ratio for the remaining 14 camps to ensure the physical safety of youth and staff.”

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Therefore, Supervisor Antonovich made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, that the Board take the following actions:

1. Approve an appropriation adjustment for the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Adopted Budget out of anticipated property tax growth to increase salaries and employee benefits appropriation by \$2.2 million for the Probation Department to reflect funding for 102 line positions to implement a 1:10 staff-to-minor ratio at the remaining 14 camps; and
2. Approve interim ordinance authority for the Probation Department, pursuant to County Code Section 6.06.020 for 64 Deputy Probation Officer I, Residential Treatment/Detention Services (8604A), 21 Deputy Probation Officer II, Residential Treatment/Detention Services (8607A), 13 Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (8610A) and four Group Supervisor, Nights, Probation (8618A) positions.

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made the following statement:

“While the budget adjustment provides additional funding for 95 positions, it does not address other crucial and immediate needs of the Probation Department. The Board should consider the Probation Department’s request for additional funding in a number of other significant areas in light of its plan to improve the overall functioning of the Department as well as promoting the welfare of the juveniles under its care. These additional funding areas include increased staffing for: juvenile camps, human resources, internal affairs, laundry and custodial duties, management, program evaluation and auditing, training, contracting and grant writing as well as strategic planning.”

Therefore, Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Burke, that the Chief Administrative Officer be instructed to report back to the Board within three weeks with recommendations for the funding of various positions, beyond the items included in the Chief Administrative Officer’s attached recommendation and Supervisor Antonovich’s amendment.

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18 (Continued)

On motion of Supervisor Burke, seconded by Supervisor Yaroslavsky, unanimously carried, the Chief Administrative Officer's attached recommendation was adopted as amended to:

1. Continued for 30 days the Chief Administrative Officer's recommendation No. 1, Section No. 5 (Children and Family Services), to transfer the \$13 million from the Director of Children and Family Services' Administration Budget to the Assistance Budget, until the Director provides a comprehensive plan to conduct initial and annual Adoption and Safe Families Act home inspections in a timely manner;
2. Approved an appropriation adjustment for the Fiscal Year 2006-07 Adopted Budget out of anticipated property tax growth to increase salaries and employee benefits appropriation by \$2.2 million for the Probation Department to reflect funding for 102 line positions to implement a 1:10 staff-to-minor ratio at the remaining 14 camps;
3. Approved an interim ordinance authority for the Probation Department, pursuant to County Code Section 6.06.020 for 64 Deputy Probation Officer I, Residential Treatment/Detention Services (8604A), 21 Deputy Probation Officer II, Residential Treatment/Detention Services (8607A), 13 Supervising Deputy Probation Officer (8610A) and four Group Supervisor, Nights, Probation (8618A) positions; and
4. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to report back to the Board within three weeks with recommendations for the funding of various positions, beyond the items included in the Chief Administrative Officer's attached recommendation and Supervisor Antonovich's amendment.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
Chief Probation Officer
Director of Children and Family Services
Director of Mental Health
Director of Personnel